

PUBLICATIONS.

The Annals of Surgery for August, in addition to several other and very excellent articles, contains a most valuable contribution to the anatomy of the head. "The Anatomy of the Inferior Ethmoidal Turbinate Bone with Particular Reference to Cell Formation; Surgical Importance of Such Ethmoid Cells," by Dr. Howard A. Lathrop, of Boston, is the title of the paper in question. It is amply illustrated with excellent half-tones, and the illustrations are such as to elucidate the text.

Trade "Literature."—An excellent sample of the sort of advertising circular sent out in hundreds of thousands every week to physicians of the United States, has been received. The article advertised is of no particular importance except as an example. The circular first gives the chemical name of the drug (one of the excessively numerous German immigrants, not recognized in Germany, but manufactured for American consumption) and follows it with a statement of the many truly wonderful actions of this particular chemical in a number of affections. It then states the solubility, etc., and follows this with a number of very fine "ready-made" prescriptions, indicated in the conditions noted. The circular closes with the statement that "literature" and samples will be sent free on application, following which is a list of the "literature." The fact mentioned by a correspondent in this issue of the JOURNAL, that it is very easy to obtain all sorts of endorsements for such trash from sundry German "professors" and others, is suggestively indicated by a careful perusal of this list of available "literature." There are twenty-one pieces of it which any physician may have sent to him, if he so desires, and of the twenty-one but one is indicated as having been published in an American journal. The author has a decidedly German name, and the journal publishing it is one of the small and insignificant ones that live and thrive only on the paid articles published and the write-ups, or "reading notices," which it prints. In all probability it is either reprinted from some foreign publication or has been bought by the manufacturers from some German "professor" and published at advertising rates.

Decapsulation of the Kidney.—Drs. Tyson and Frazier report an operation of decapsulation of the kidney (Edebohls' operation) in the *Univ. Penna. Bulletin* for September. The patient was a child of 9, suffering from chronic parenchymatous nephritis; the urine, before operation, was 21 ounces for the 24 hours, one-half, by volume, being albumen. All medical treatment unavailing; ascites persistent and recurring; patient considered hopeless and referred to surgical ward. Patient so weak that it was thought impossible to operate on both kidneys, so one was first operated upon. The second 24 hours after the decapsulation the urine rose to 42 ounces; the third to 73, and the fourth to 102 ounces. It then dropped back to an average of 60 ounces daily. Two months later the other kidney was similarly operated upon. The urine remains at about 60 ounces and the albumen contained is about 50 per cent by volume. The report refers to the work upon dogs done by Dr. Harold A. Johnson, of San Francisco, and closes with the significant sentence: "On the other hand, there can be no doubt that the patient's life has been saved, and apart from the urinary evidences, she is seemingly in perfect health."

A Real Question of Ethics—The *Illinois Medical Journal*, the publication of the Illinois State Medical Society, publishes the report of a committee of the Illinois Pharmaceutical Association which deals with the relations of pharmacist to physician, and says: "it is of particular interest to our members." It should be of particular interest to every physician in every State and Territory of this country. The report is here printed almost entire:

A short time ago some 50 druggists of Hyde Park gave a banquet to which one hundred doctors were invited; the object was to establish more cordial relations. The subjects under discussion were mainly such as had been presented at a meeting of pharmacists at Springfield some two years previously, and were discussed with much interest. The subjects are here briefly outlined, the train of thought in each instance being simply started:

Self Dispensing; Advantages and Disadvantages—Saving of time; economy to the patient. Making the case fit the remedy and not the remedy fit the case. Narrowing of the number of remedies at command. Substitution of the remedy at hand for some other which better judgment would dictate, etc.

Tablet Triturate Evil—All the above evils, plus uncertainty of medication, etc.

Prescribing Proprietary Preparations—Lack of knowledge as to constituents. Popularizing (advertising to the public) to the palpable disadvantage of the physician. Placing heavy financial burden on both pharmacist and patient. (Notably true in such instances as phenacetin, wool fat, the hexamethylene tetramins, etc.).

Prescribing National Formulary Preparations—Something the druggist can make and the physician can know all about; in other words, generally and universally standard preparations. A prominent druggist had on exhibition a number of preparations of this sort, furnishing a striking illustration of their superiority over proprietary preparations, both from a commercial and an ethical point of view.

Phenacetin vs. Acetanilid—Educate the physician to the fact that they are almost identical, with the advantage, medicinally, in favor of acetanilid—let him know that you oppose phenacetin because it is a monopoly and costs twenty times what it should.

Anti-Kamnia vs. Acetanilid Compound—Comment is superfluous.

Counter Prescribing—Its Advantages—If any, to the druggist; its injustice to the physician; its injustice to the patient.

Refilling Prescriptions and giving Copies—Have an understanding with your physician that his wishes when expressed will be regarded.

The foregoing subjects cover practically the entire range of common ground between the physician and the druggist and afford a prolific and profitable field for exploration and coöperation along the lines followed by the Hyde Park druggists. While it should be our aim to discourage so far as possible the prescribing of proprietary preparations, yet so long as doctors prescribe them, let us fill such prescriptions with the genuine article.

Whose fault is it that the secret proprietary preparation thrives, increases and multiplies?

Nurses' Guide to Surgical Bandaging and Dressings, by Wm. Johnson Smith, F. R. C. S., issued by the J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia. Price 75 cents.

This little volume is well gotten up and is of a nice size for the purpose intended—a volume of suggestion and instruction that may be carried in the pocket of the student or nurse while on duty. The preface seems to tell the truth regarding the volume; a characteristic and peculiar rarity: "In writing

this small work the author has endeavored to provide a ready and complete pocket reference book for junior students and nurses in surgical work. The scientific principles upon which the modern treatment of wounds is based, are fully explained, so that the instructions in dressings and bandaging may be intelligently followed. In order to make these explanations as clear as possible, the little book has been profusely illustrated." The illustrations are really descriptive.—P. M. J.

The American Journal of Orthopedic Surgery, to be published by the American Orthopedic Association, has issued its first number. The Journal is to be a quarterly, and will contain the papers presented at the meeting of the Association and other papers on Orthopedic Surgery by members and non-members. A strong feature is to be a complete resume of orthopedic literature, so that each year's volume shall contain the whole of the year's literature in full or in abstract.

The Journal is to be published in Boston, and is under the charge of an Editorial Committee consisting of Robert W. Lovitt, of Boston; B. E. McKenzie, of Toronto, and Harry M. Sherman, of San Francisco.

The present number contains articles by L. A. Weigel, the president at the time of the meeting, on "The Family Physician, the Specialist and the Patient." V. P. Gibney, "The Correction of Deformity at the Hip, the Result of Disease: A study of the Best Methods and Best Positions"; E. H. Bradford, "Subtrochanteric Osteotomy in Adults, in Adolescents and in Young Children"; R. Tunstall Taylor, "The Mechanical vs. Operative Treatment of Rachitic Deformities of the Lower Extremities, Presenting a New Osteoclast"; Wallace Blanchard, "The Surgical Pathology of Genu Varum and Genu Valgum"; R. W. Lovett, "The Occurrence of Painful Affections of the Feet Among Trained Nurses"; W. Barton Hopkins, "A Further Consideration of a Modified Form of Osteotomy Combined with Osteoclasis, Osteotomoclasis"; Joel E. Goldthwait, "A Consideration of the 'Round Shoulder' or 'Stoop-shoulder' Deformity in Children, with Especial Reference to the Proper Adjustment of the Clothing in Preventing and Treating Such Conditions"; W. R. Townsend, "The Abuse of Flatfoot Supports," and Royal Whitman, "The Importance of Supplementing Tendon Transplantation in the Treatment of Paralytic Talipes by other Procedures Designed to Assure Stability."

In this number are twenty-two abstracts of orthopedic papers. In its make-up the Journal shows excellent taste and good mechanical work.

The Alumni Bulletin of the University of California Medical Department begins its second year with a very creditable number. Judging of its usefulness by its material, it is evident that the "Bulletin" is accomplishing much. The number is full of reports of addresses at the meetings of the Alumni Association and of communications from members, all concerning the interest the Association should have and must have in the Medical Department and its welfare and growth. Not a few of the expressions are critical, and that is healthy, for it, too, shows interest. The scientific papers are few and brief, but the "Bulletin's" first object is to bring the individual alumni in touch with each other through the medium of its publication, and when the Association has become stronger, as it must with the continuation of its present course, we shall expect to see the scientific work of its members reported in its pages.

The Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, in its issues for September 17 and 24, and October 1, publishes "The Ill Health of Francis Parkman," by Dr. Geo. M. Gould. This essay is a further addition to the studies which Dr. Gould has been making for some time past, one volume of these Biographic Clinics having already been published and reviewed in these pages. Whether or not we agree with Dr. Gould in believing that eye-strain has such an important place in the formation or malformation of character, and indeed, physical development, we must concede that he has shown a masterful study of his subject, a delightful erudition and a keen reasoning faculty that cannot but gain at once our admiration. In these days few pieces of work are so well or so carefully done as they should be, and it is an added joy to see such clean-cut work come from such a busy workshop. There seems to be little doubt that Dr. Gould has demonstrated his point to at least a considerable extent, and that he has shown to be true, within reasonable margin for question, the fact that eye-strain does materially affect a man's working faculties and his output. Also that eye-strain has existed and may exist for years, if not for a generation, without being located as the cause of trouble and properly attended to, will have to be conceded to his logic. Dr. Gould is an extremist, but then, are not extremists sometimes in the right and conservatives in the wrong? It is to be hoped that the essay last published will be issued in pamphlet form so that a more careful study may be made with the whole of the material he has presented.

The October issue of the *International Journal of Surgery* is one of very great interest to those who practice or may be pursuing the study of radiotherapeutics. The number contains papers, profusely illustrated, by leading electrotherapists, which very fully cover the field of this comparatively new medical science. Among the titles are "Treatment of Cancer," "Cure of Lupus Erythematosus by Actinic Light," "Therapeutic Value of the X-Ray," "How to Secure the Best Skiagrams," "New Treatment of Cicatrices," etc.

Reclamation of Alkali Land at Fresno, California, by Milton Whitney, Chief of the Bureau of Soils, Department of Agriculture.

Proceedings of the Good Roads Convention, held at St. Louis, Mo., April 27th to 29th, 1903. Department of Agriculture.

Proceedings of the Fifth and Sixth Annual Meetings of the Pharmaceutical Association of the State University of Iowa, held at Iowa City, April 3rd, 1901, and April 1st, 1902.

History of Maritime Quarantine in Louisiana Against Yellow Fever. By Dr. Quitman Kohnke.

DEATHS.

Dr. J. G. Neal died at Santa Rosa on October 11, of septicemia, which followed an operation on an abscess of some years existence. Dr. Neal was a native of Kentucky and had practiced his profession in Sonoma county for six years.

Dr. George W. Carpenter died October 3, at his residence in San Francisco, 1422 Post street, in the 80th year of his age. He was born in Indiana and graduated from Medical Department University of Michigan in 1853.

Dr. L. C. Winsor, who removed from San Jose to Livermore a few months ago, died on October 22d at his home, of consumption. Some years ago Dr. Winsor was connected with the county hospital at Denver, Colo. He was 41 years of age.